

REMARKS

Specification

The specification has been amended to correct typographical errors present therein. Applicant submits that no new subject matter has been added.

Claims

The claims have been amended to correct typographical errors present therein and not for any reason related to patentability. Of note, the claim amendments were mostly necessitated by the typographical error of failing to consecutively number the claims as there were two claims labeled claim 12 and two claims labeled claim 13 in the specification as originally filed. Moreover, after the first appearance of claim 13 in the application as filed, the next claim was inadvertently numbered "claim 12" instead of being correctly numbered "claim 14." Thus, this preliminary amendment was necessitated to correct the numbering of claims. New claims 54-108 correspond to the canceled claims. Minor typographical errors located in the claims were also corrected in new claims 54-108. Applicant submits that no new subject matter has been introduced.

Drawings

Applicant attaches on separate paper a replacement sheet containing FIGURE 10A for Examiner's review and approval. The replacement sheet is identified in the top margin with the text "Replacement Sheet" and has been amended such that the "Yes" and "No" paths from block 112 have been relabeled as "No" and "Yes," respectively. Also, the reference numeral 118 has been added, which is referenced at page 18, line 26 of the Detailed Description as originally filed. Applicant submits that no new subject matter has been introduced.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks and preliminary amendments, applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. Consideration and examination of the application, as amended, and allowance of the claims at an early date is solicited. If the Examiner has any questions or comments concerning this matter, the Examiner is invited to contact applicant's undersigned attorney at the number below.

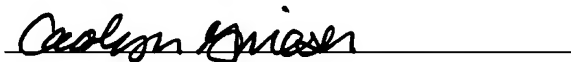
Respectfully submitted,
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in a sealed envelope as first class mail with postage thereon fully prepaid and addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below date.

Date: March 9, 2005



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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

A replacement sheet containing FIGURE 10A has been provided for Examiner's review and approval. The replacement sheet is provided on separate paper attached hereto and is identified in the top margin with the text "Replacement Sheet."

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